

Keep It a Happy Day

The upcoming weekend is one of the most dangerous for those families seeking one more fling at summer fun before school schedules and weather impose their limits on travel and outdoor recreation.

For many, Labor Day has turned out in years past to be their final fling at the good life. Or any life at all.

Coming as it does as a climax to summer, the symbolism of Labor Day is lost on many. Uncountable thousands will take to the highways to visit mountains, lakes, and the beaches. An army of police, firemen, ambulance drivers, highway patrolmen, hospital attendants, and rescue squads will seem at times inadequate for the task. Their task often becomes mostly a rearguard action.

It has been said thousands of times, but needs saying again: drive carefully, be extremely careful in fire hazard areas, take extra precautions around "the old swimming hole," and remember above all that thousands and more thousands will be crowding onto the same highways and freeways around the Los Angeles area. Drive as though your life and that of your family depended on it.

School Opening Nears

With the approach of September, the hottest days of summer are upon the Southland, and thoughts are turning to the ending of the vacation season and the nearness of the coming school year.

September brings the time when millions of young people will return to tens of thousands of schoolrooms here and across the land.

While much of the present activity centers around wardrobes, the coming football season, preschool parties and such, there are those whose thoughts are centered on curriculum, taxes, and budgets.

The cost of education today is a major tax burden. With this in mind, many of the "older generation" sometimes voices the doubt that "all this schooling is really worth it." They wonder what kind of a crop of young people we are raising. Protesters, rioters, and school dropouts get a great deal of publicity, but they are a tiny proportion of our school population and would probably be in trouble wherever they were and whether they had any education or not.

The real promise of the future lies in the vast majority of hardworking young people who look forward to school days opening again this fall—not only for the social companionship, excitement and fun of activities, but also, because they feel the stimulation of learning about their heritage and opportunities and exploring the vast fields of knowledge now being unfolded to man's mind.

As the school bells ring again, we all should wish them well.

The Renewal Dilemma

Federal approval of the city's Meadow Park Redevelopment Project assures the city that it will be able to go ahead with plans to clear the west end of the airport and establish a new industrial park on the property.

Approval came last week after more than two years of work and planning, and in the face of mounting opposition to the concept of urban renewal among several Torrance groups.

Councilmen and homeowners learned much in the course of the two-year struggle to gain approval of the airport area renewal project. They learned, as an example, that long strings are always attached to such a program when federal money is involved.

Among those long strings is one which required the city to conduct a systematic housing inspection program to check for building code compliance on the pretext of forestalling future blight areas.

A house-by-house, block-by-block inspection schedule was revised when home owners in areas selected for the first inspections rose up in protest. The councilmen were forced to alter some of the enabling codes and agree that inspectors could enter private dwellings only on the invitation of the occupant.

Petitions seeking to put the whole matter of urban renewal on the ballot are being circulated throughout the city, and being signed eagerly by residents in the older sections of town, such as in central Torrance. They fear they have been singled out for early "renewal."

Their fears may not be groundless, but we hope the councilmen have learned, at least, that they had better take a most serious look before they go jumping into any more urban renewal projects. This might be a good time to quit.

Morning Report:

President Johnson hasn't asked me for any advice recently but I won't let that deter me. He should stop posing in public with his grandson, even though by all the photographic evidence at hand he is a fine child.

The fact remains that it is only logical if voters keep looking at pictures of Mr. Johnson and his grandchild, they will irrevocably come away with the notion that Mr. Johnson is a grandfather. There's nothing wrong with grandfathers and many of them are swingers of the first order. But a nation beset with one war abroad and another one at home is not looking for grandfathers to lead them out of the mess.

The polls showed a big drop in the President's popularity to an all-time low for him of 39 per cent. Probably due to two facts he couldn't stop: the riot in Detroit and his daughter's son.

Abe Mellinkoff

When The Kids Go Back To School—



HERB CAEN SAYS:

Ex-Governor Pat Joining Switchers About Vietnam

Ex-Gov. Pat Brown, one of the dwindling number of top Democrats who still have a pipeline to LBJ, has joined the switchers on Vietnam—and now favors withdrawal (okay, Pat, get on the pipe!) . . . Downtown Oakland must be anticipating Big Trouble. One of its biggest buildings already has its windows boarded and its ground floor barricaded. Several merchants report their glass insurance has been cancelled. And a hitherto vacant store is now filled with plywood panels (labeled for various heavy stores) that can be inserted swiftly over smashed windows.

I tellya San Francisco has everything—even an ice cream parlor for animals. That would be Polly-Ann's or Noriega, where Ed Hanson dispenses free cones to dogs, cats and racoons, when accompanied by people. You should see those big doggies with their front paws up on the counter, panting for seconds (ged odda here, you basset!) . . . No. 1 joke on the commute trains last week: First guy: "Do you have a nude picture of your wife?" Second: "Uh—no." First: "You want one?" (Lonnngng silence).

Welcome fans, to the Santa Maria, Calif., drive-in movie, featuring "Von Ryan's Express." Here's Sinatra show- ing Trevor Howard how to make a rope lasso to help them escape from a German train. At this point, the projectionist puts on the wrong reel and there on the screen are Kirk Douglas and John Wayne, side by side, guns smoking, in "The War Wagon." The screen goes blank as horns toot, customers holler—and suddenly "Von Ryan's Express" reappears just as Howard is saying to Sinatra: "Learned that from cowboy films, did you?" Prof. Marshall McLuhan, shedding his customary light on a mysterious object: "President Johnson hasn't got a corporate image so he can't be a success. His image is not acceptable. It belongs to some other country at some other time." The Stone Age?

Tom Storer, chief of the Marin County Democrats, is the latest to jump off the LBJ bandwagon over Vietnam, "under certain circumstances," he says, "I would support a Republican with a strong peace platform—Rockefeller or Percy, but never Nixon, Reagan or Romney." Adds Storer, an ex-Marine major wounded twice in Korea: "By the way, I'm not a Nervous Nelly." . . . Something hew and nervous-making in the Hashbury: the hard guys in the

A Letter To My Son

By Tom Rische

High School Teacher and Youth Worker

Dear Bruce: Your dad will soon face some 150 or so students in his high school classes, including lots of squiggly freshmen.

Dad forgets from year to year how small freshmen can be, until he hears a small voice piping, "Where's the rest room, please?" and looks down to discover a small figure looking up from approximately belt-buckle height.

Over the years, Dad has learned some things about freshmen:

The average freshman girl will be taller than the average boy.

Many of them will buy elevator tickets from seniors (although our school has no elevators.)

Some of them will go snipe hunting, before they find out what a snipe is.

They wiggle a lot.

They giggle a lot.

They ride their bikes to school.

They lose or forget their lunches about twice a week.

They can break your ear drums screaming, "Hi!" at a friend across campus.

They still bring things to "share" just like in elementary school.

They tell the teacher goodbye when they leave class.

They need directions repeated several times.

They bring up their papers if teacher happens to miss an incorrect answer on a test.

They are easily impressed and will say so—in contrast to sophisticated blasé seniors.

They try hard.

Their pictures in the annual will cause great merit in about four years.

Yours for more freshmen,
Your dad.

AFFAIRS OF STATE

Solons May Have Little Work in Short Session

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR
Capitol News Service

SACRAMENTO — When the state legislature reconvenes here Sept. 4 for the new veto over-ride session, it may not have much to do.

Governor Ronald Reagan has vetoed, so far, only a few bills, and none of these are expected to raise much of a controversy. And even if they did, no observers think a two-thirds vote could be mustered to over-ride the governor's disapproval of any measure.

However, according to the new constitution as approved by the voters last year in Proposition 1A, the legislature is required to return to Sacramento, at some expense to the taxpayers, to convene "for a period not to exceed five days, to reconsider vetoed measures."

The fact that the two houses agreed to come back on a national holiday, which is Labor Day, may have been a happy coincidence as far as legislative pocket-books are concerned. For the legislators not only collect mileage back to Sacramento, but also will garner the benefits of their \$25 per day expenses.

Nobody expects the legis-

lature to do much work on Labor Day. The state fair will be under way, and the horse races may prove more of an attraction than the legislative halls.

And the thought that the legislators might clean up on their veto work on this holiday seems somewhat remote.

However, the legislature may have some excuse for

Sacramento

returning to Sacramento, as the latest word is that Governor Ronald Reagan will call a special session to straighten out the school bill, passed in the final days of adjournment.

The legislature made an error in this measure, despite the fact it had several months to act on the bill. The error is technical, but if allowed to stay in the bill, could cost the state some \$70 million in its appropriations to certain school districts for state aid.

Although attempts have been made to work the matter out at the administrative level, these appear to have failed, and the special ses-

sion will be necessary to avoid additional subsidies to the districts from state funds.

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Governor Reagan has not as yet announced his intentions as far as calling a special session are concerned now is that the special will be necessary.

Again the question arises as to when it will be called, after or during the veto session.

A special session brings some more problems at the present time, in view of the election of Milton Marks, San Francisco, to the senate. The Marks election causes an even split in the senate, now a house with Democrats in all the key seats.

A determined drive is being made by Senator Howard Way (R-Exeter) to unseat Democrat president pro-tem Hugh M. Burns (D-Fresno). A special session would call for re-organization of the senate, and this would take time. However, from cursory observation, it doesn't appear that Way's election as pro tem is imminent at the moment, so the re-organization quite possibly can be avoided.

ROYCE BRIER

Moon Photos of Earth May Give Man Humility

That picture of the planet earth, taken recently from the vicinity of the moon, out 215,000 miles, is interesting. Technically it may be likened to a Matthew Brady Civil War picture, blurred and lacking the photographic drama and angle which so sharply marks our modern process. A good example of the latter is the helicopter shot of the mile-long string of burned-out Egyptian tanks in Mitla Pass in the June war.

Achieving such pictures, as applied to the earth-moon system, and later to some planets and their satellites in the Solar System, is a technological problem. A shooting base for such pictures exists, but the technique has not gone through its necessary evolution.

The earth picture showed about two-thirds of its visible disc. The African continent was fairly man-like. The Mediterranean, Red Sea, Hindustan showed, but im-

mense cloud systems hung east of China—and over the Indian Ocean and north polar region.

Cloud systems are the chief obstacle to a clear picture of the planet. Some ocean plane passages in which there is a cloud deck all the way, tell us why.

It is useless to expect a cloud-free earth in the way

World Affairs

you get a clear-cut moon. Only a montage will ever show us the clear configurations of terrestrial land and water, but it is reasonable to suppose this will be technically possible in a decade or two. Some way must also be found to escape the atmospheric distortions at the limb (edge) of the sphere. Astronomers say we cannot see the earth revolving on a television film. It moves only the width of the disc in twelve hours.

Yet this might possibly be speeded up to barely perceptible motion, like that of the Seattle Space Needle restaurant, which revolves 360 degrees in one hour.

What is needed for a little soul medicine is a clear, moving picture of the earth in space, all the continents and seas defined. No cities will show (perhaps a spot of smog) but large features like the Himalayas and the Great Lakes should.

Perhaps a picture from 100,000-150,000 miles out would be better than 215,000 miles. A layman wouldn't know, but experimentation might prove it. It would be costly, but hardly a tenth of Apollo, and far more likely to be successful.

Why soul medicine? Well, man has always been interested in his earthly home. For millenniums he explained it by myth, making him unique and alone. What astronomers today tell him after the myth is an abstraction. But a picture will show him the reality, and perhaps humble him. He has always been so arrogant and self-assertive, a little humility won't hurt him. He may get it, too, when he sees that sphere out there, majestically spinning. He might ask himself why it's there. A good question, never to be answered, but even to ask it is good.

Quote

In serving its community, each newspaper must bring to bear its own enterprise, courage, independence, and integrity with whatever relative economic strength and journalistic resources it may have at its disposal. Thus, neither the size of a newspaper, its country or its community determines the relative measure of its effort or achievement. Rather it is its record of public service, pursuit of the truth, balance of presentation, and specific contribution to the overall progress of the people of its area. — Robert L. Taylor, Publisher, Philadelphia Bulletin.

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Californians cannot afford to accept further delay in the federal government's addition of the Century Freeway in Los Angeles to the interstate system—Gordon C. Luce, transportation administrator, on need to restore \$250 million in interstate highway funds to the state.

UNIVERSITY REPORT

Campus Attitudes Often Shaped by Social Strata

College students find greater understanding from their parents on many current public issues than from fellow students on other campuses.

This denial of a "generation gap" is observed in the current issue of "Research Reporter," a publication of the Center for Research and Development in Higher Education at the University of California, Berkeley.

Freshmen students at three colleges in the United States express disagreements far more frequently with others at the various campuses than with their parents. The students' views were explored on subjects ranging from Supreme Court decisions on civil rights to the use of drugs and their interests in cultural and religious pursuits.

The social and financial backgrounds of the students had considerable impact on the attitudes, and these influences made for more differences among the students than occurred between the students and their parents.

The study, part of a long-range research project, was conducted in three schools with the following characteristics:

1. A highly selective col-

lege drawing students primarily from the upper socioeconomic levels (College A).

2. A college whose students represent a typical middle class background (College B).

3. A public institution which draws its students primarily from a metropolitan area in which only a few of the parents have college degrees and whose occupations and incomes are at the lower level (College C).

College A students and their parents, for example, favor the Supreme Court decisions upholding civil rights by margins of 86 per cent for the student, 71 per cent for his father, and 75 per cent for his mother.

But at College C, students agreed with such decisions at a rate of only 34 per cent and their fathers and mothers by 20 and 23 per cent respectively.

The same percentage held true generally on the issues of the Vietnam war, aid for the underprivileged and social welfare.

The UC researchers asked the students whether "it is hard for a person over 30 really to understand the young person." Students at all three colleges believed it

was not. Only 14 per cent of those at College A believed the statement to be true, 29 per cent at College B, and 32 per cent at College C.

Dr. K. Patricia Cross, author of the analysis in the "Reporter," notes that "the student group at College A, with more 'far out' liberal opinions, feels more optimistic about the possibility of being understood by adults than do the student groups expressing more conservative viewpoints.

"While it may well be true," she adds, "that parents don't understand other people's children (certainly College C parents might have some difficulty with College A students), these data do not offer much support for the popular notion of a generation gap. The evidence strongly suggests that the attitude and interest gaps shown here are less related to chronological age than to the strata of American society."

The research at the Berkeley Center was under the direction of Miss Mildred Henry, assistant specialist and associate project director, and Dr. Paul Heist, Professor of Education and research psychologist.